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FBI

Federal Bureau of Investigation

8/3/61

Via Liaison

Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, Northwest
Washington 25, D. C.

Velta Rupners

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir: REF: CSCI-3/762,805*dated 17 Jan 1961*

For your information, I am enclosing communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

*(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)*REMARKS

Your attention is invited to page 2, paragraph c of CSCI 3/762,805 wherein it is revealed no current address is available for Ilmars Rupners. Attached memo reveals a current address for him which may be of interest to you.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

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DBF 84421

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York
July 24, 1961

Re: ② Pauls Rupners;
Lucija Rupners
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On June 5, 1961, SA William H. Hickey reviewed the files of the captioned individuals at the Central Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service, (INS) which reflected the following information:

Pauls Rupners, who was born September 5, 1886, at Quellenstein, Estonia, and Lucija (Lucia) Rupners, nee Berzins, who was born March 14, 1907, in Liepaja, Latvia, immigrated to the United States from Bremerhaven, Germany, arriving on May 4, 1949, at New York City on the U.S.A.T. "General W. M. Black". They were naturalized in the United States District Court (USDC), Eastern District of New York (EDNY), at Brooklyn, New York, on November 11, 1954, Mrs. Rupners receiving Naturalization Certificate number 7387971 and Mr. Rupners number 7387969.

Mrs. Rupners' parents were listed as Ermanis Berzins and Ilse Schenkewic (Senkewitz), (both deceased). She married Pauls Rupners on October 1, 1946, at Munich, Germany.

Pauls Rupners listed his parents as Gustav Rupners and Maria Sonntag (deceased). He married his former wife, Milda Virs, on February 27, 1911 and divorced her on December 8, 1940. He listed a son, Egons Rupners, born November 15, 1911, at Riga, Latvia, now residing in Toronto, Canada, and a son, Ilmars Rupners, born April 28, 1914, at Riga, now residing in Riga.

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Re: Pauls Rupners;
Lucija Rupners

As of May 1, 1950, Mrs. Rupners was employed as a nurse in the Jewish Hospital, Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York. She was described as five feet, three inches; 160 pounds; grey-brown hair; blue eyes; able to speak, read and write Russian, German, and Latvian.

Pauls Rupners was employed from September 9, 1950 to June 1, 1951, by Mrs. Cohen, 666 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, as a superintendent; from November 20, 1950 to July 15, 1951, by Wyckoff and Brett, Incorporated, 156 West 86th Street, New York, New York, as a porter, and from August 1, 1951 to August 1, 1952, when he retired, by the Latvian newspaper "Laires" (Laiks), Brooklyn, New York, as a clerk. He attended the University of Riga from 1922 to 1929, and had previously visited the United States in 1931. He was described as five feet, eight inches; 190 pounds; grey hair; grey eyes; medium complexion; able to speak, read and write German, Russian, English, Latvian, and Estonian.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupners listed previous travel and residence as follows:

Travel ---	September, 1951	Two weeks visit to Canada
	September, 1952	Three weeks visit to Canada
	November, 1953	Two weeks visit to Canada
Residence -	May 4, 1949 to September 9, 1950	156 East 28th Street, Brooklyn, New York
	September 9, 1950 to June 1, 1951	666 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
	June 1, 1951 to February 22, 1954	35 Brevoort Place, Brooklyn, New York
	February 22, 1954 -	698 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

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Re: Pauls Rupners;
Lucija Rupners

Mr. and Mrs. Rupners were interviewed in their Apartment 4B at 2902 Cortelyou Road, Brooklyn, New York, on July 19, 1961, by SAS Frank A. Gilman and Ralph F. Miller. Mrs. Rupners is employed as a nurse at the Jewish Hospital, Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Rupners is retired. Mr. Rupners advised that he had a stroke some time ago and he is not a completely well man.

Mr. Rupners, who advised that he was of Latvian origin, stated that he had been a broker on the Riga Stock Exchange and was the representative in Latvia for International Harvester Company for 35 years, from 1905 to 1940. He was forced to flee Latvia when the Russians invaded and took over Latvia in 1940. Mr. Rupners' first wife and Austra (Phonetic), the wife of his older son, Egons, were captured by the Russians and sent to a labor camp in Siberia. Austra had two children, one and two years old respectively, who were sent to the labor camp with their mother. Both children died there and it was originally reported that Pauls' wife and Austra had also died, but information was received some years ago that Austra had survived and had been released, but was confined to some locality in Siberia.

Egons was able to escape from Latvia and eventually made his way to Canada. Ilmars, the younger son of Pauls Rupners, was free for a time, but was later captured by the Russians. He was eventually released by the Russians and for some years has been living in Riga. He is reportedly employed as a contractor and house builder by the Building Trust in the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic (Latvian SSR).

Through Pauls Rupners' connections with International Harvester, he was able to escape to Germany. Pauls Rupners remarked that he married his second wife, who was originally from Latvia, in Germany, and they eventually were able to come to the United States.

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Re: Pauls Rupners;
Lucija Rupners

Pauls Rupners advised that he himself was sentenced to death by the Russians in 1919 and a second time in 1941.

Mrs. Rupners' father, who is 86, and her mother, who is 76, are still living in Liepaja, Latvia, with a sister of Mrs. Rupners. She learned some years ago of their whereabouts and they correspond occasionally, but the letters are strictly of a personal nature.

About three or four years ago, Ilmars Rupners wrote to his father and mother-in-law stating that everything was fine in Latvia, that he was building them a home in Latvia, and that he wanted them to return. Ilmars indicated in this letter, or possibly in another letter, that he was in his present situation as he was otherwise it would happen to him "as it happened to Austra". It was obvious to Mr. and Mrs. Rupners that he was under pressure from the Russians. He has since corresponded with them several times a year, but he has never mentioned the subject again. His last letter was received by them about three or four months ago. Mr. and Mrs. Rupners indicated they were surprised that he was able to have as much freedom as he would appear to have in view of his past anti-Communist activities.

Mr. Rupners furnished Ilmars' present address as Riga - Mezciems, Kreles iela 4, Latvian SSR.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupners stated they have never been approached directly, or indirectly to their knowledge, by any Russians for any purpose whatsoever. They stated if they should be so approached, they would advise the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It is noted Immigration and Naturalization records reflect that Mrs. Rupners' mother and father were dead. Mrs. Rupners indicated that she did not know the whereabouts of her parents for a number of years and did not know if they were dead or alive, until she learned they were alive and living in Liepaja, Latvia.

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